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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA
COMMISSION
FOR THE BLIND

FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR 1975-1976



Printed Under the Direction of the
State Budget and Control Board

1

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The South Carolina Commission for the Blind is in compliance with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI and all requirements imposed pursuant thereto to the end that no person shall, on the grounds of sex, race, color or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the provision of any care or service. Any client participant, potential client, or interested person who is of the opinion that Benefits are provided on a discriminatory basis has the right to file a complaint with the State Agency or Federal Agency or both.

September 1, 1976

The Honorable James B. Edwards
Governor of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

Dear Governor Edwards:

In summarizing our tenth year of service to the blind, we believe we can say without qualification that we are serving more blind and visually impaired individuals than ever before, but most importantly, the quality of service is higher than ever. It is a more comprehensive and personal brand of service.

The efforts of the Commission Board and staff are evident with the changes and advancements noted herein.

Backed by your gratifying support and that of South Carolina General Assembly, we pledge to achieve and exceed those goals set for fiscal year 1976-1977.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

Henry F. Watts
Commissioner

COMMISSION

Mr. Allan C. MustardColumbia
Chairman

Mr. W. Eugene AbramsAnderson

Mrs. Onnie D. BarhamColumbia

Mr. A. Peter AnselmoFlorence

Mr. Samuel L. ZimmermanGreenville

Mr. Richard B. SteeleLancaster

Dr. Clay W. Evatt, Jr.Charleston

ADMINISTRATION

Several changes were made in the Administration of the South Carolina Commission for the Blind (SCCB) during fiscal year 75-76. Two committees, Consumer Advisory and a Business Enterprise Managers Advisory, were to be incorporated into the organizational structure. The Consumer Advisory Committee, now in proposal stages, will be comprised of consumers, consumer organizations, and providers of services, to meet twice annually with the Board and the Commissioner to provide input and feedback on the program planning and effectiveness. The Business Enterprise Managers Advisory Committee is composed of six managers, one being elected by the managers to represent each of the six Business Enterprise districts. The Committee and the Commissioner meet quarterly to discuss feedback from the committee on the Business Enterprise Program planning and effectiveness.

The position of Deputy Commissioner for Fiscal Affairs was created to manage the areas of accounting, data processing, property and supplies. The Deputy Commissioner, like the Personnel Director, Public Information Officer, Staff Development/Program Evaluation Specialist, and Facility Specialist, reports directly to and is supervised by the Commissioner.

The Commission was divided into four separate, distinct departments: Prevention, Business Enterprise, Vocational Rehabilitation and Special Services which includes Children's Services, Materials and Textbook Center, Volunteers and Educational Radio for the Blind.

Significant progress and stability in classified positions were achieved during FY'76. Records show there were 17 new hires and 18 terminations during the year. Four employees retired and 57 positions, or 43%, were re-classified as a result of a study conducted by State Personnel. Analysts reported in a normal agency study only 10 to 15% are acted upon. At the end of June 1976, the Commission staff stood solidly at 134.

This study, combined with Commission policy to reward competent employees under the Merit System and to promote within the Agency, gave personnel a sound vote of confidence for work well done.

The close of FY'76 showed a complete disbursement of Federal Funds and a \$9,226 state fund carry-over. The carry-over will be used to supplement the FY'77 program. The total budget for FY'76 was \$3,325,117, a 6% or \$202,720 increase over FY'75 total of \$3,122,397.

The Commission's aggressive approach to In-Service Training for its staff produced dividends during the year. There were \$27,000, a 42% increase, in funds available for training, of which 66% was expended. During F'75, only 21% of \$15,000 was disbursed. The increase in training funds was due to the increase in training activity and a new reporting system for training funds.

During the year, 100% of the Commission's professional staff members were involved in one or more training activities relevant to their job responsibilities. And, 100% of the secretarial staff participated in pertinent training. In addition, all secretarial staff attended the Agency's Annual Staff Training Conference.

The Commission conducted or participated in 71 training events during FY'76 compared to 72 in FY'75. Figures show a 55% increase in the number of training activities engaged

in within the State when compared to FY'75. SCCB participated in 23% less out of State events during the year resulting in reduced training cost in terms of dollars and time away from the job. Overall, there was a 69% increase in the total number of staff involved in training.

Numerous other training conferences were conducted by SCCB and some were co-sponsored with other agencies in and out of state, other universities and colleges, and several professional organizations.

Continued involvement and participation in projects with other agencies and organizations brought about extended benefits to the blind and visually impaired. The SCCB and The South Carolina Commission on Aging formulated an agreement to provide recreational functions at the SCCB Training Center for the State's elderly blind. The agreement also called for the purchase of additional radio receivers for the clients to hear specially designed programs for them on the Educational Radio for the Blind Network.

The Mobile Eye Clinic continued to function as a joint effort of the SCCB and The S. C. Lions Sight Conservation Association. The van conducts free eye screening for glaucoma and visual acuity problems. Pathology clinics were maintained in strategic locations of the State in cooperation with local ophthalmologists and optometrists. The clinics help individuals use the residual vision they have.

FY'76 saw the beginning of an annual summer camp for blind and visually impaired children from all over South Carolina. The camp was co-sponsored by the SCCB and the Hilton Head Lions Club.

Work on the New Ellen Beach Mack Rehabilitation Center began just after the start of the FY'76 and at the close of the year was nearly complete. The new Center will centralize the Administration, Training Center, District Office and Home Industries to bring about the very best in service to the blind and visually impaired.

Finally, changes were made in the Public Information Office to further upgrade the image of the Commission. The Agency Newspaper was re-designed and an in-house news-

letter began circulating bi-monthly. A new comprehensive brochure for the SCCB was written and calls from the toll-free telephone line increased.

The newspaper, called *The Record*, will be published four times a year. Special editions may be printed when the occasion warrants. Tel-a-quest, the toll-free line, has recorded over 1100 calls since its inception just before the start of FY'76.

And, numerous slide/sound presentations, films and lectures were used by the office to inform the public of the purposes of the SCCB and the services available to eligible recipients.

From an administrative point of view, FY'76 was a very productive and rewarding year. More and better services were offered than ever before, marking a bright path for the blind and visually impaired as the SCCB entered its second decade of service.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

Vocational Rehabilitation is a process by which the blind and visually impaired are helped toward gainful activity and employment. It is restorative in nature, and encompasses evaluation, training, physical restoration, job placements and follow-ups with the end goal being total independence.

Fiscal Year 1976 was the best ever for the SCCB Vocational Rehabilitation Department. Over 2,000 individuals were served during the year.

More importantly, 355 clients were successfully rehabilitated as compared to 329 the year before. This represents an 8% increase in rehabilitants and 105% of cumulative service and rehabilitation goals. The SCCB Vocational Rehabilitation Department was first among 12 agencies in reaching cumulative goals in Region IV during the reporting year.

Medical Consultation was decentralized from Columbia to include Florence, Charleston and Greenville, providing the field staff more direct contact with medical consultants.

The Work Adjustment Agreement with Goodwill Industries in Greenville was revised to a single unit cost, relieving the

Commission from a large scale fund commitment but maintaining the availability of work adjustment services for clients.

SSI-SSDI Beneficiary Rehabilitation Programs have resulted in certification for SSI clients meeting special selection criteria up 700% over last year and certification for SSDI clients meeting special selection criteria up 375% over last year. The Agency should have the highest percentage of certification for both programs of all agencies for the blind in Region IV with the publication of the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Annual Status Report.

A uniform filing system was adopted to aid in caseload management and facilitate supervision of casework. Final steps were taken toward establishing a review of active and closed cases, including the development of necessary forms.

Post Employment Services were introduced to the field staff in a Statewide Counselors Meeting. The Services were to begin immediately and periodic training will be provided to assure the services are utilized.

The development of written cooperative agreements with other agencies providing service to rehabilitation clients was begun with the SSI program of the South Carolina Department of Social Services and established steps for the sharing of information regarding SSI clients in cooperation with the Social Security Administration. The South Carolina Department of Mental Health has indicated an interest in the expansion of written cooperative agreements also in the new year. Agreements with other agencies are expected to follow.

Significant increases were made in other areas during FY'76. There was a 6.7% rise in the total average quarterly earnings of \$75,684 to \$80,819. Actual earnings for the quarter ending June 30, 1976 totaled \$80,821, a one year increase of 6.6%.

At the end of FY'76, 119 clients were closed rehabilitated above the minimum wage compared to 100 the year before, a 19% increase. On the other hand, 79 were closed rehabilitated below the minimum wage as compared to 119 in FY'75. This represents a 34% decrease in clients receiving below minimum wages.

During the year, SCCB counselors continued to place clients

in more and more jobs that involve producing something tangible. Major placements were made in industries, in agribusiness, processing occupations, clerical and sales occupations, and professional, technical and managerial occupations.

An important phase of the rehabilitation process is providing services to clients in their homes. To do this the SCCB utilizes two mobile units, one in the Piedmont and one in the Lowcountry. Plans were to add yet another unit in FY'77. These units bring to the clients training in adjustment to blindness, mobility, braille, and home industries. The Greenville mobile unit began to travel to Rock Hill to work with clients, a first for the area.

Percentage-wise, the units did well. In Area I (Piedmont) 24% more clients were evaluated, compared to 230% more in Area II (Lowcountry). As for the number of clients served, Area I had 213% more while there was a 733% increase in Area II. Successful terminations looked good, too. Area I successfully terminated 152% more clients, while Area II closed out the year with 450% more successful terminations.

A proposed Innovation and Expansion Grant (I&E) was to add two more home teachers to the system. The plan called for one full-time teacher to cover the Sumter and Florence areas, and a part-time person in the Columbia area. As part of the I&E grant, the SCCB Radio Network was to be used as a teaching aid in the home. Receivers were to be distributed, followed by teachers monitoring the client's progress in special instructional programs aired over the network. The results of this training were to be relayed to the client's counselor.

Limited use of electronic travel devices was made during the reporting year, and electronic reading aids continued to be furnished to clients as part of the rehabilitation process. The SCCB remained one of the few, if not the only, agency in the Southeast providing instruction in the use of the electronic mobility aids such as the Russell Pathsounder, the Laser Cane and binaural sensor aids. Expanded training in use of the reading aid known as the "Optacon" was also recorded during FY'76.

FY'76 was very rewarding for the Rehabilitation Depart-

ment. New goals were achieved and the financial return of the program was impressive. The total state appropriation of FY'76 was \$1.2 million of which \$466 thousand went to the Rehabilitation and BEP of which \$212 thousand, or 45.5%, was returned to the State's treasury during the same reporting year. A breakdown of the economic impact of the two programs is listed after the BEP summary.

BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

The end of Fiscal Year 1976 showed 80 Business Enterprise Program locations (vending stands) operated by the South Carolina Commission for the Blind (SCCB). This represented a 12% increase in the number of locations in operation over FY'75. Ten of the 80 locations were opened during the year and just one was closed. These new figures were sound evidence more blind persons than ever before were afforded the opportunity to manage their own business and become economically independent.

During the past fiscal year, the Business Enterprise Program (BEP) increased its gross sales to \$2,118,571, or 19% over FY'75. More importantly, the average income of the managers (operators) climbed 4%, to \$10,260.

Increased production and compensation meant more for the taxpayers, too. Each time a new BEP location was opened a new taxpayer was added to the list. The manager became part of the business world in an effort to keep the State's economy flowing for a better life for all.

These new locations were situated in various buildings; state and federal office buildings, State institutions, technical schools, and private industries. Plans were also developed to have a stand in the new center.

An extra for the BEP was the establishment of the BEP Managers Advisory Committee. The Committee held its initial meeting in May of 1976 with regional representatives from Atlanta in attendance. This group is composed of six mana-

gers, one being elected by the managers to represent each of the six Business Enterprise districts.

As the BEP began to prepare for Fiscal Year 1977, thought was being given to making changes in the training program. Some of those changes considered were to extend the training time and to vary the selections available.

The BEP now has a solid foundation upon which to build a system to benefit all, and make the blind and visually impaired independent.

INDICATORS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

Rehabilitation and Business Enterprises Programs

Fiscal Year 1976

The following analysis is based upon the 1976 Fiscal Year:

1) Number Rehabilitated	355
2) Collective yearly income	
a) at intake	\$ 242,992
b) at closure	893,224
c) net change in client earnings FY 76	650,232
3) Average earnings at closure	\$ 4,336
a) percent of increase in average earnings over FY 75	7.9%
4) Taxes returned first year after rehabilitation FY 76 individuals	
a) state and federal income taxes	\$ 13,802
b) state sales tax returned	21,630
c) FICA	52,253
5) Business Enterprises Vending Stand Program	
a) gross sales for 80 vending stands	\$2,118,571
b) average earnings per operator	10,260
c) actual state sales tax paid on over the counter sales	84,743
d) net profit to operators	677,133
e) state and federal income taxes for BE operators	89,920

6) Funds generated from Blindcraft Operations	
a) sales from Blind made products	\$ 61,626
b) sales tax paid from Blindcraft sales	2,465
7) South Carolina Commission For The Blind economic return toward the state's economy FY 76:	
a) Federal funds earned	\$2,031,786
b) net change in client earnings (only FY 76 clients)	650,232
c) taxes returned: sales tax and personal income tax—only FY 76	212,560
d) Business Enterprises Vending Stand Program gross sales	2,118,571
e) Business Enterprises Vending Stand operator earnings	677,133
f) Blindcraft sales	61,626
Total	\$5,074,775
8) Direct return to state's treasury for FY 76..	\$ 212,560
9) Total state appropriation FY 76	\$1,246,128
10) State Appropria- Direct Return Percent of State tion Rehabilita- to State for Appropriation Re- tion and BEP FY 76 turned the same year Programs \$ 212,560 45.5% \$ 466,855	

HOME INDUSTRIES

Homebound blind persons unable to compete in the labor market can obtain work and supplemental income through the Home Industries Program of the South Carolina Commission for the Blind (SCCB).

Through the use of Commission staff instructors, participants are taught to make certain marketable products. Upon completion of the training, shipments of raw materials to provide the crafts arrive at the worker's home. The homebound clients buy the raw material at cost from the SCCB. In the home, the clients manufacture items such as stuffed

monkeys, dolls and pot holders. Once completed, the merchandise is sent back to the SCCB's retail and wholesale outlet, known as Blindcraft. Here the items are inspected and placed on the market. All sales and profits are returned to the worker at home.

During the year, new designs and colors were added to the already large selection of products available. The bicentennial doll was a favorite during the celebration of the nation's 200th birthday and several new doll designs were included in regular customers' order.

FY '76 was one of history for the Homebound Industries Program. The first overseas order was placed and paid for by a shop in Philipsburg, St. Maarten, the Netherlands. More overseas orders are expected in FY'77. The program already ships craft items to wholesale customers in 25 states, and all over South Carolina. These items are easily identified by the label attached: "Made by the Blind of South Carolina."

Statistically speaking, Home Industries fared well in FY'76. The number of clients receiving payment rose 21% to 57 in one year. Total sales were \$62,274.32.

A golden opportunity awaits clients of the Home Industries Program. Added working space, larger volumes of raw material at lower costs, increased market locations and a growing sense of dedication are just a few of the reasons why the Homes Industries Program and the blind and visually impaired of South Carolina can be happy.

DISABILITY DETERMINATION

The South Carolina Commission for the Blind is the nation's only agency for the blind and visually impaired with a Disability Determination Unit to adjudicate claims for Social Security benefits where visual impairment is the only disability.

The examiner works with the applicant to determine if the individual meets the requirements set by law and recommends an allowance if the individual is eligible. The examiner also works with an ophthalmologist in reviewing medical records to

support a claim for benefits. Those individuals who do not qualify by the prescribed law are still considered on the basis of age, training, and vocational experience prior to a final decision.

During Fiscal Year 1976, the Disability Determination Unit received some 519 claims for Social Security Disability benefits and Supplemental Security Income Benefits. Decisions were rendered on 500 cases, an increase of 2% over FY'75.

The SCCB Disability Determination Unit has continued to provide the best of service exemplified in FY'75. Reports continue to indicate the unit ranks very high in effectiveness by rendering accurate and timely decisions.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

The Prevention of Blindness Department of the South Carolina Commission for the Blind (SCCB), during the past fiscal year, served an increased number of people needing eye care and treatment.

Once again more eye surgeries were conducted during FY'76 than in the previous year. The total number of surgeries and hospitalizations climbed 1% from 757 to 763. Cataracts continued to be the number one cause for operations as there were 396 such operations during the year.

Glaucoma operations decreased slightly, but there was an increase in the number of persons on the glaucoma register, 315 more to be exact. The number of emergencies increased by 2, as accidents continued. Enucleations, the complete removal of the eye with replacement of prosthesis, accounted for 13 operations. The number of operations for strabismus jumped 14% during the year for a total of 89. Strabismus is the inability of one eye to attain binocular vision with the other because of imbalance of the eyeball muscles.

The total number of eye examinations by eye specialists in FY'76 was 2,850. Despite a reduction in funds suffered by all state agencies, statewide screening by the Prevention department provided more clients than ever before with visual aids such as glasses, contact lenses and prosthesis. The total number of visual aids purchases by the department rose 7%

in FY'76. In figures this amounted to 87 additional aids.

In the area of eye re-examinations and glaucoma re-checks, the totals increased 10 and 8% respectively. The number of medical examinations given clients decreased 23% because of the reduction in funds, and the fact the SCCB performs such examinations upon request only. In addition, 51 clients received medication on a quarterly basis during FY'76, an increase of 21% over that of the year before.

To provide the needed services and attain the figures contained herein, the department operated three pathology clinics and a low vision clinic. The pathology clinics are located in Walterboro, Orangeburg, and Aiken. These clinics provided examinations for Rehabilitation, Medicaid and Prevention of Blindness clients. The Low Vision Clinic, located in Columbia, saw a record number of referrals, and the rate of success for utilization of low vision aids tripled.

The Mobile Eye Clinic, co-sponsored by the SCCB and The South Carolina Lions Sight Conservation Association, visited more cities and tested more people than ever before. The van conducts the eye screening for visual acuity and glaucoma free to the public, and during FY'76 some 18,600 eye screenings were conducted. The results from the screenings show 1,014 persons were referred to the SCCB for follow-up and 2,551 were referred to eye specialists.

The Commission Register for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons continued to grow by means of a larger population and increased efforts to locate individuals needing assistance. The end of FY'76 showed the register listing 7,134 blind persons and 15,931 as visually impaired. And, something new was added to the register during the year. Prevention Department personnel began to place a disease code next to the individual's name. This will aid in obtaining pertinent information on a client as quickly as possible. At the end of FY'76 work was 60% complete on adding disease codes to the register.

The prevention of Blindness Department was extremely busy during the year, and despite a shortage of funds provided equal or better services than in previous years to those in need of service.

DIVISION OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Expansion and Quality. Two words that best describe FY'76 in the Division of Children's Services. The department added two new staff members through the utilization of Title XX funds during the year. These instructors, one orientation and mobility and one skills of daily living instructor, provided actual instruction on Title XX eligible recipients. Plans were discussed during the year to expand the service in FY'77 to include four instructors serving both Title XX eligible and non-eligible children.

The quality of work from the staff, headed by three consultants, remained high. More and more visually impaired children between the ages of birth to 14 received assistance, and more and more parents of these children were aided in their adjustment to their child's blindness. Intervention and results from the treatment gave the division a high batting average.

The number of eligible clients rose in each of the three geographical regions of the state. The Piedmont had an increase of 22% to 171; and totals of 116 in the Midlands and 114 in the coastal plains. This amounted to 401 clients receiving service during the year for an increase over FY'75 of 12%.

Pilot projects using Visual-tek read-write systems in selected schools attended by several Commission clients proved quite successful. These machines were especially helpful to very young low vision clients in the area of concept development.

Other projects continued were workshops for parents and their visually impaired children, programs for orientation for pre-school age blind children, optacon training, a newsletter for the parents of the children, and recreational camps. One such camp was Camp Leo. It is the only camp of its kind in the country where a State Agency, Civic Club, and institution of higher learning work together on the project. The camp lasts a week and enables the children to participate in recreational activities not offered at home. It gives the children an opportunity to become independent.

Work continued on radio programming for young blind

children; and on workshops for children, parents and teachers of multiply handicapped blind children.

Groundwork for many new ideas was laid in FY'76 with hopes the future will bring about more and better services to the blind and visually impaired children. The knowledge gained in FY'76 will undoubtedly benefit even more in FY'77.

EDUCATIONAL RADIO FOR THE BLIND

Educational Radio for the Blind was one of the largest areas of growth in the South Carolina Commission for the Blind (SCCB) during FY'76. The Educational Radio for the Blind (ERB) Program is one of two in the Southeast broadcasting more than 50 hours per week, and one of three states in the nation that has an ERB network.

The ERB Network grew to three stations during FY'76. The ERB Network operates on a sub-carrier of the South Carolina Educational Radio Network, and can be heard only with specially-tuned receivers distributed by SCCB to eligible clients. The third station was opened in Sumter about half-way through the fiscal year. The fourth station, Columbia, was to open in the new year.

At present, all the network stations received the same programming, but plans were made to "Simulcast" once the operation moves to the New Ellen Beach Mack Rehabilitation Center. This simulcast will enable different programs to be broadcast to the Piedmont, Midlands, and Lowcountry at the same time, thus making for more personal programming.

The goal of ERB is to deliver programming that will keep its listeners up-to-date on current affairs at all levels. Actual programming includes in-depth reading of newspapers, magazines, a book of the week, and human interest stories. There are interviews with successful blind people, consumer tips, weather information and information on programs and services in which blind people may enroll.

Near the end of FY'76, SCCB signed an agreement with the South Carolina Commission on Aging to secure additional

receivers for blind clients over age 60 in the Midlands. In addition to the new receivers, groundwork was laid for special programming for the elderly blind.

The new SCCB Title XX contract signed in FY'76 added two people to the ERB Program. A field engineer will distribute, repair and keep inventory on the receivers. A radio announcer assistant will handle secretarial duties and complete Title XX forms.

Fiscal Year 1976 was one of much growth and planning for the ERB Program. At the end of the year some 426 receivers had been distributed, an increase of 7%. Records indicated there were 535 listeners as of June 30th, 1976, with specific increases in the Charleston and Sumter areas.

The future looks bright for the ERB Program and the blind and visually impaired persons who listen daily. Through the use of additional staff, volunteers and equipment, programming will be the finest available in FY'77.

MATERIALS AND TEXTBOOK CENTER

The Materials and Textbook Center of the South Carolina Commission for the Blind (SCCB) had a good, stable year during FY'76. There was a 7% increase in the amount of equipment issued, a 10% gain in equipment returned, a 4% rise in processed material issued and a 9% growth in circulation.

During FY'76, the Center brailled 17,550 pages, and there were 1,970 reels of tape recorded. The number of braille pages duplicated by the Thermoform process came to 9,095, an increase of 14%. Tape duplicating amounted to 1,540, and cassette duplications were recorded at 1,530. There was a tremendous increase of 89% in the number of large print books, 364 volumes in FY'75 to 688 in FY'76. In terms of circulation, the Center accounted for 745 talking book titles, a gain of 7%. Also, the Center circulated 2,760 braille volumes. There were 1,275 large print volumes in circulation, an increase of 360.

At the conclusion of FY'76, the Center had 2,904 talking book machines in use. Some 238 cassette recorder/players were issued. In addition, at year's end there were 82 cassette recorders, 304 cassette players and 10 tape recorders in use.

These figures reveal just how much material was processed, routed through and produced by the SCCB Materials and Textbook Center in FY'76. The Center lived up to its function of serving blind South Carolinians of all ages. Included in the services were provisions of aids to further the education or development of blind persons, work with any agency concerned with the development of the blind, and assistance for the SCCB staff in a time of reference or duplicating.

In FY'76, the SCCB signed an agreement with the South Carolina State Library to join forces in the distribution of talking book machines.

For the Materials and Textbook Center, FY'76 was a solid year. And, with the expansion of the department in the New Ellen Beach Mack Rehabilitation Center, the Materials and Textbook Center can become the best in the country.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

The Volunteer Services Program continued its fine work at the South Carolina Commission for the Blind (SCCB) this past year. The Volunteer Service Coordinator worked in recruiting and assisting volunteers in preparing material for the blind and visually impaired of South Carolina.

Workshops and training sessions were conducted to orient new volunteers to the SCCB, and refresh memories of some of the veteran volunteers. The Volunteer Services Program used several types of media to encourage participation for the benefit of those in need.

The Volunteer Services Program transcribes printed material into braille, records written material into tape for listening, provides transportation, helps with cutting patterns for those clients in the Home Industries Program, plus many

more services. The Coordinator worked with many health service agencies, both private and public, in directing numerous volunteer programs.

At the close of FY'76, the Volunteer Services Program began preparations for a braille class at one of the institutions of the South Carolina Department of Corrections. It was felt a program of this nature would benefit both the blind and those incarcerated individuals by giving them something constructive to pursue. It is hoped FY'77 will bring about additional agreements of this nature.

The work of the Volunteer Services Program during 1976 was greatly appreciated by those participating and by those receiving assistance. The drive for volunteers and satisfied clients will continue in FY'77.

SPECIAL SERVICES STORE

Many blind and visually impaired South Carolinians have benefited from the Special Services Store of the South Carolina Commission for the Blind (SCCB).

The store offers a wide variety of items stocked and sold at cost to the individuals. These items include braille watches, braille games, braille paper and writing devices, mobility canes of various lengths, tape recorders, cassettes, optical aids and braille Bibles.

The Special Services Store has several major purposes. One is to make available various aids and appliances for purchases by legally blind South Carolinians. Sometimes these particular items are purchased by certain SCCB departments for use in serving their clients. Another function of the Special Services Store is to maintain supply items for various components of the Commission. One other major function of the store is to allow blind or visually impaired persons an opportunity to display their products in the store if, after inspection, it is determined to be a sellable item. Once the item is accepted, it is included in the store inventory and the workers are paid for the product.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Fiscal Year 1975-76

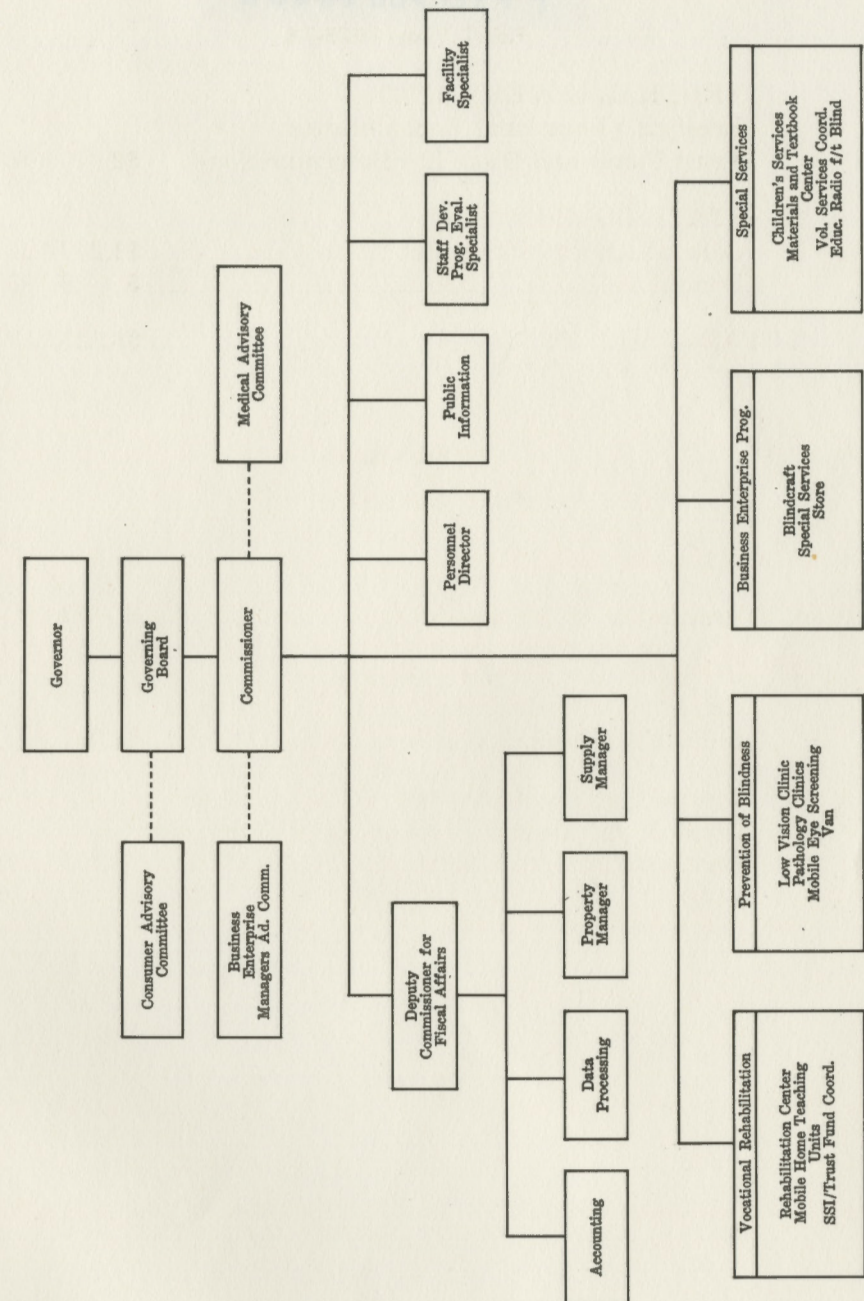
1. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	
Receipts (Vocational Rehabilitation, Trust Funds and Disability Determination)	\$2,070,407
2. STATE GOVERNMENT	
General Appropriation Act	\$1,246,128
Donations	\$ 8,582
TOTAL — ALL FUNDS	\$3,325,117

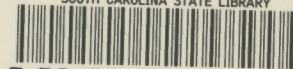
EXPENDITURES

Fiscal Year 1975 - 76

1. Administration	\$ 520,033
2. Prevention of Blindness	\$ 568,983
3. Rehabilitation Services (Vocational Rehabilitation, Business Enterprises, Home Industries, Disability Determination)	\$2,084,147
4. Special Services (Educational Radio for the Blind, Materials and Textbook Center, Volunteer Services, Children's Services)	\$ 151,954
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,325,117

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND





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SOURCE OF FUNDS

Fiscal Year 1975-76

NEW YORK STATE ARTS AND CULTURE ADMINISTRATION (FEDERAL GOVERNMENT)	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	
	Receipts (Vocational Rehabilitation, Grant Funds and Disability Determination)	\$2,970,407
NEW YORK STATE ARTS AND CULTURE ADMINISTRATION (STATE GOVERNMENT)	STATE GOVERNMENT	
	General Appropriations	\$1,345,186
	Donations	\$ 5,500
	TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$4,320,117

EXPENDITURES

Fiscal Year 1975-76

NEW YORK STATE ARTS AND CULTURE ADMINISTRATION (FEDERAL GOVERNMENT)	Administration	\$ 525,000
	Prevention of Blindness	\$ 525,000
NEW YORK STATE ARTS AND CULTURE ADMINISTRATION (STATE GOVERNMENT)	Rehabilitation Services (Vocational Rehabilitation, Business Enterprises, Home Industries, Disability Determination)	\$2,000,145
	Special Services (Operational Radio for the Blind, Materials and Textbook Center, Newspaper Services, Children's Services)	\$ 170,954
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,695,117

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND